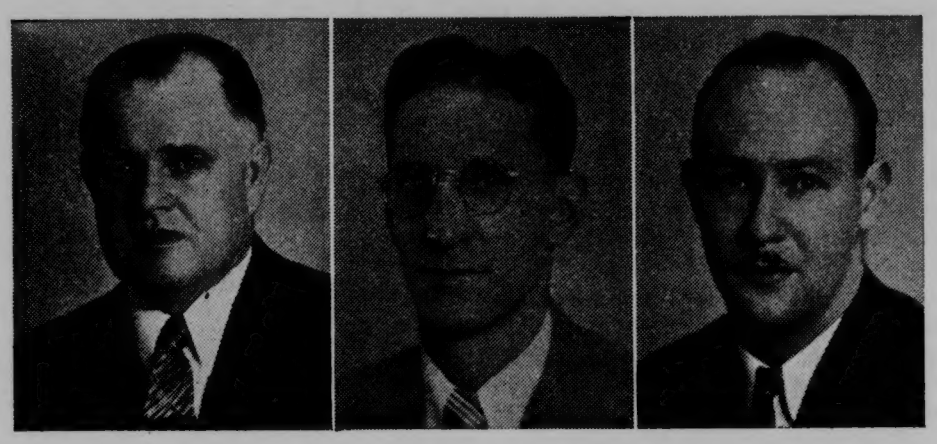
THE MESSENGER

OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 9 | OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST, 1939 | No. 8

NAPA BRANCH IS ORGANIZED

Friday evening, July 21st, Napa branch of Oakland Stake, was created under the direction of Presidents Hilton and Summerhays. A special committee of the High Council consisting of Elders Don Allphin, Don C. Wood and Wayne E. Mayhew had previously investigated the feasibility of the new branch, and were present to assist in setting it up. Heretofore, Napa and vicinity have been a part of Vallejo ward, but the long distances required for traveling, coupled with the healthy growth the Church has shown, have made the new branch possible and advisable. Some 35 families have already been contacted and it is estimated that the branch rolls will begin with close to 150 members. The new unit will include all of Napa County.



First Counselor Pitcher | *President Murdock* | *Second Counselor Pope*

Chosen to preside over the newest division of the Stake were John LeRoy Murdock, president; Hyrum Nathan Pitcher, first counselor; Fleming Leon Pope, second counselor. Elder Murdock was born in Salt Lake City in 1901, a son of John R. and Ann William Murdock. He was reared in Ogden and Coalville, and was graduated from Weber Academy and College. In 1921-23 he filled a mission in California. Returning to Utah, he was married in 1924 to Helen Bingham, granddaughter of Aranthan Bingham, the first bishop of Riverdale ward. They have two sons and one daughter. Coming to California in 1931, Elder Murdock continued his Church activities in Vallejo ward, serving as superintendent of the Vallejo M. I. A. in 1932. He was ordained a Seventy in 1924 and later became Sunday School superintendent of Vallejo ward. He is sales manager for Houck & Houck, furniture and appliance store, in Vallejo.

Hyrum Nathan Pitcher is a native son of California, born at Tulare in 1880. He is of pioneer Mormon stock, His grandfather and grandmother were married in the Nauvoo Temple. His father, Loren Edwin Pitcher, and mother, Mary Adeline Pitcher, were among those sent by Brigham Young to colonize San Bernardino Valley; when the colony was recalled at the time "Johnson's Army" invaded Utah, the Pitchers remained in California, and sometime later his mother joined the Reorganized Church. This was also Elder Pitcher's church until 1932, when he became converted through a study of Temple work and the question of authority, and joined the Latter-day Saints in 1932. Since then he has served as president of the San Bernardino branch and as a member of the High Council of San Bernadino Stake. Since coming north he has been active in Vallejo Ward as Sunday School teacher and priesthood group leader. He was married in 1906 to Myrtle Barton of Long Beach; they have two daughters and two granddaughters. Reared on a farm, upon leaving school he went into the bakery business and is at present baker in the Imola State Home.

Fleming Leon Pope was born at Sparks, Nevada, in 1914. His schooling was in Sacramento where he went to junior college, following which he was graduated from the law school of the University of San Francisco. While living in Sacramento he became interested in Mormonism, investigated, and in 1937 was baptized. He has been very active in Church affairs and is a keen student of theology. In 1938 he was married in the Salt Lake Temple to Mary Taylor, daughter of Edmund Z. and Norma Farr Taylor. Since leaving school he has been employed by the F. W. Woolworth Company, and is at present assistant manager of the Napa store.

M. I. A., RELIEF SOCIETY CONVENTIONS

This year the annual Stake convention of the M. I. A. and Relief Society will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 9 and 10, at the Oakland chapel. This is two months later than usual, but the new date was arranged to better correlate the work of the conventions with the opening of the new M. I. A. season.

The program of the Relief Society has not yet been received, but will be announced in due course. The M. I. A. Stake boards are having a preliminary meeting the first week of August with representatives of the general boards. It is hoped that both Stake and wards will be completely organized before the convention opens.

The M. I. A. convention will begin Saturday evening, September 9, at 7 p. m. with a Stake board meeting. At 7:30, a joint stake and ward board meeting will be held, followed by separate sessions of the Young Men and Young Women. At 9 p. m., departmental work will be undertaken. Sunday morning at 8:30 will be a second meeting of the Stake boards. At 10 a. m. will be the only regular quarterly conference session. The afternoon will see additional department meetings, and the evening will witness a final session in the form of a young people's conference, to which the public is invited.

ARCHIE HILL IS IMPROVING

Elder Archie Hill of Berkeley, formerly a member of the bishopric of that ward, is confined to his home with a heart ailment. He will be inactive for several weeks, but is gaining in strength.

HIGH PRIESTS PUT SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL

Stake Welfare Project Rapidly Nearing Completion

Considerable enthusiasm was evinced at the regular monthly meeting of the High Priests of the Stake on Sunday, July 23, when in something less than ten minutes they raised $89.30 in cash to add to their contributions to the Stake welfare project. A brief report on the present status of the project by Elder William J. Nielsen of the High Council started the ball rolling. Following his report that the project needed close to $300 to clear its indebtedness, the hat was passed, so to speak, and the High Priests voted to dispense with the weekly ward meeting on the second Sunday of August and meet at the scene of the project at 11:00 a. m.

The buildings on the project have been completed with the exception of the final coats of paint. The custodian's cottage is completely finished. Next step is to get some suitable equipment installed, including sewing machines and canning facilities. At least $150 is needed for the latter purpose, and about $300 more is needed to clear off present debts.

Several months ago the various priesthood quorums were given quotas to raise, and, generally speaking, have done well. However, it will take all of the balance due on these quotas just to clear existing indebtedness before serious consideration can be given to procuring equipment. Present standing of the quorums on their respective quotas are as follows:

	Quota	Paid in to date
High Priests	$150.00	$217.85
247th Seventy	100.00	71.00
273rd Seventy	100.00	26.00
First Elders	100.00	39.00
Second Elders	100.00	37.50
Third Elders	100.00	40.00
Fourth Elders	100.00	24.00

The quorums are earnestly urged to complete their quotas so that the next step may be completed and this property put to active use during the present season.

The Relief Society has been busy. Large quantities of clothing have been reconditioned, and the welfare truck was recently sent back to Salt Lake City loaded with the same. A certain amount was kept on hand to supply local needs

ANCIENT AMERICA AND THE BOOK OF MORMON

Recently there was founded, at Los Angeles, California, a new organization for the promotion of scientific knowledge in the field of the Book of Mormon. Word has been received that this organization, "The Itzan Society," is now open to new Church-wide memberships, an announcement that should be of the greatest interest to all students and readers of this ancient American scripture.

Prime force in the organization is Dr. M. Wells Jakeman, whose many friends in Oakland Stake will remember him as a brilliant graduate student at the University of California who took prominent part in the affairs of Berkeley ward and of the Deseret Club. Dr. Jakeman is the author of many papers on ancient America, a very few of which were published in THE MESSENGER. His research in this field is outstanding and will undoubtedly

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1.

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ANCIENT AMERICA

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result in invaluable light being shed upon the origin of the Book of Mormon.

Listed among the members of the Itzan Society, as honorary affiliates, are T. A. Willard, prominent writer on Maya history; Dr. A. O. Bowden, professor of archæology at the University of Southern California; Dr. John A. Widtsoe, church leader and educator; President W. Aird MacDonald, of the California Mission, and Dr. Eugene Hilton and W. Glenn Harmon of the presidency of Oakland Stake. Several contributing affiliates are also on its rolls. Its staff consists of Dr. M. Wells Jakeman, specialist in its field of research, as president and director; Howard G. Stephens as secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Eva C. Pinkerton, Mrs. Ernest L. Dee and David S. Milne as regional secretaries; and Dr. G. Byron Done, Thomas S. Ferguson and F. S. Harris, Jr., as associates.

All persons interested in learning more of the historical background and archæology of the Book of Mormon are invited to become members of the Society. No special qualifications are necessary. Privileges of membership include free subscription to the "Bulletin" and other serial publications, unrestricted use of the library, and free admission to the general lectures (including extension offerings for non-resident members). Application forms may be obtained by addressing the Regional Secretary, Mrs. Eva C. Pinkerton, 543 Tennyson Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

THE HILTON BOYS TRADE PLACES

Word has been received by President and Mrs. Hilton that Eugene Jr., has landed in New York City after filling a mission to Germany and Switzerland. Just when he will reach Oakland he is keeping a deep, dark secret—perhaps to give him a little extra time to view the New York Fair, and perhaps just to create a little surprise. But his folks are hoping he'll make it in time to be present at the farewell party to be given to Joe Roy on September 1 in the Dimond ward. Joe Roy has been called to fill a mission to Germany, where he'll try to fill and improve upon Eugene's footsteps.

MESSAGE OF THE STAKE PRESIDENCY

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It is highly gratifying to all concerned to note that Oakland Stake continues, month after month, to occupy a relatively high position among the Stakes of the Church. This is all the more satisfying because we have not made a fetish of going after records. Rather, our efforts have been to achieve a balanced, all-round program of efficiency, a steady effort to raise our standard here a little, there a little, and to maintain the raise thus achieved. It has been our belief that steady, consistent, all-round effort to achieve steady, consistent, all-round improvement, is of far more lasting good than to concentrate all efforts in one direction at a time to the neglect of other and equally important things.

That this ideology is sound, we believe is being demonstrated by the very healthy growth of the Stake and its consistent maintenance of its rank among the high ones of the Church.

But there is no occasion for resting on our oars. There is vast room for improvement in so many things that to attempt to consider them all at once is almost to overwhelm one with a feeling of utter inadequacy. But we must not get that feeling. There can be no standing still in this work—and we must not move backwards. Let us, therefore, just take a quick look around, square our shoulders and proceed to make the most of the remaining five months of 1939.

We are still far short of where we should be in the matter of fast offerings. Our tithing record needs much to improve it. Think of what could be done if all who are earning money paid an honest tithe—a tenth! Some of our quorums—especially the elders' quorums—have much that could be improved. We are way down in the number of missionaries who should be in the field. And perhaps more in need of attention at the moment than anything else, our attendance at sacrament meeting is nothing to be proud of.

Sacrament meeting, the most important meeting of the Church, the official meeting of each ward and branch for the transaction of its business and for the spiritual communion of the members—this meeting, round which should center all Church activities, drew for the month of June an attendance of only 19 per cent of our members. One of the wards fell as low as 14 per cent.

Here is a field that needs some attention—and such a little bit of attention should make such a tremendous difference. We urge you one and all, to strive during the balance of the year to make the percentage of attendance what it should be.

Faithfully yours,
EUGENE HILTON.
W. GLENN HARMON.
CLYDE J. SUMMERHAYS.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR AUGUST

Alameda: Robert T. Paine, Elmo Carr.
Berkeley: C. C. Carr, Archer Willey.
Claremont: Oscar Fontana, John C. Stirrat.
Dimond: Clyde J. Summerhays.
Elmhurst: Eugene Hilton.
Hayward: Grant Ellis, Wayne E. Mayhew.
Martinez: Don J. Allphin, William J. Nielsen.
Napa: Ralph J. Barney, Leo Crandall.
Oakland: I. B. Ball, Frank J. Parsons.
Richmond: Don C. Wood, R. Kendall Thomas.
Vallejo: W. Glenn Harmon.
Pittsburg: Claude M. Dewsnup, John J. Shields.

ANOTHER COUNTRY HEARD FROM

This time it is Holland, and the medium is Elder Robert Kest who has written a most interesting letter describing his activities in the Dutch Mission. He is at present editing a Dutch edition of the *Millineal Star*. But let him speak for himself as he did in this letter to the Hiltons:

Robert Kest

"Since last I wrote you, I have labored in the quaint old Friesian town of Leeuwarden. Here a tower, still standing after five hundred years, reminds the traveler that once long ago, the sea was sixty kilometers further inland. This old structure, in its faded glory of crumbling brick and granite, its scars covered by the gentle, soothing hand of moss, has served in the capacity of lighthouse, church and guard-tower. During the last years it has been necessary to remove the "cupula" as the tower has developed a startling lean, and reminds one of the leaning Tower of Pisa. The Saints here are very poor, and our meetings rarely exceeded 15 in attendance, 20 at the most. A wonderful opportunity was afforded to speak, as the missionaries carried the load of all organizations on their own shoulders, so I profited thereby.

"I was then appointed branch president of Den Helder, and worked in this charming little seaport and naval-base city for six weeks. These weeks were among the happiest of my mission, and I shall never forget them. The saints worked in peace and reasonable agreement, and our meetings frequently topped 50 at sacrament services. It came as a shock when I received my appointment as assistant editor of the Dutch *Star* . . . .

"My stay in Den Haag at the Mission Office has been very pleasant, and I really enjoy my new duties editing the *Star*. It is interesting work, and affords me an opportunity to occasionally write, which I very much enjoy.

"President and Sister Murdock, our mission parents, are lovable and admirable people. The chance to associate with them is a real privilege, and we do benefit by their excellent advice and example. They are both unusually gifted, and have brought about many necessary changes in the mission field. President Murdock is a wizard at finance, and has everything running along smoothly on a cash basis. Its stabilized things wonderfully! Sister Murdock is the possessor of a rich mezzo-soprano voice, and has been the musical light of the mission. She has recently been instrumental in publishing a Dutch song (hymn) book that we were badly in need of, and the work stands as a compliment and credit to her.

"We have only last month finished our annual conference, and what a spiritual feast it was! Over sixty missionaries present, with saints from over entire Holland also in attendance. One could visualize the tremendous sacrifice some of these poor people made in order to attend. Months of careful and systematic saving, denying themselves necessities in order to be present; these things bring tears to the eyes, and a lump in the throat.

"Conference started Friday, the 26th of May, with a special meeting for all officers and teachers. This was followed in the afternoon with a meeting for the Relief Society. In the evening a meeting was held for Sunday school and Primary workers. These meetings were well attended and carried an excellent spirit.

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WARD TEACHERS' MESSAGE FOR AUGUST, 1939

Wholesome Recreation

From its earliest days the Church has recognized the place of wholesome recreation in the Church. It has recognized the fact that people must and will have recreation and that if it is not provided under proper auspices, it is likely to be unwholesome and injurious either to body or soul, or both.

To Latter-day Saints, recreation should mean more than mere pleasure or thrill or sensation. It should be engaged in for a purpose and in a manner strictly in keeping with Gospel teachings. Any form of recreation or amusement that is not in keeping with the spirit of the Gospel is unwholesome and should not be indulged in by Latter-day Saints.

Recreation which involves games of chance, violation of the Sabbath Day, any feature involving even a suggestion of immorality, the violation of the rights or properties of others, abuse of our own bodies through excesses of any kind, or disregard of other Church standards is not wholesome and should be avoided.

Members of the Church are being tested today in their attitude toward proper standards of recreation. Unwholesome forms, some fostered by commercial interests, and others involving "fashionable fads," are leading some of our members, both old and young, away from Gospel standards and into dangerous practices. Latter-day Saints should be warned that amusements of many kinds are being promoted which are entirely out of harmony with Latter-day Saint ideals. They are proving to be attractive; and because members of other churches whose standards are not the same as ours participate in them, there is a tendency to "follow the crowd" and join in.

Latter-day Saint standards and ideals of wholesome recreation differ from those of most of the world as much as do our religious doctrines. Unguarded and unrestricted recreation has led and will lead to the most serious of sins and transgressions. Parents, therefore, should safeguard their children by encouraging them in wholesome recreation in harmony with the teachings of the Church. Young people should stand up for the principles of truth and righteousness in recreation the same as in other activities. Wholesome recreation is clean, beneficial to health, conducive to true happiness and in harmony with highest moral standards. It is the only kind that has any place in the lives of true Latter-day Saints.

ANOTHER COUNTRY HEARD FROM

Continued from page two

Saturday marked the beginning day for yearly exhibits, with splendid showings by all organizations. A genealogical meeting was held in the morning and carried out into the afternoon in conjunction with Mutual improvement meetings.

"Saturday night we presented an interesting play, the 'Volheid der Tijden.' This is a translation of the work now being presented over the air in America entitled 'The Fullness of Times.' It was presented as a drama-pageant affair, with the help of the Amsterdam Choir, a very efficient reader and well-played musical interludes. It proved to be an unusually effective production. I was fortunate in being connected with this piece in the capacity of production manager. Many outsiders heard the Gospel message preached through this interesting medium which carries such power. Frequently, such a play may make a far more lasting impression than an equally beautiful speech, as the effectiveness of light, color, costumes and music is very marked upon an individual.

"Sunday, our conference proper began, and it was a joy to see almost a hundred and fifty priesthood bearers present. Fine addresses were given by the presiding elders, and President Murdock delivered as fine a sermon as it has ever been my good fortune to hear. All through the Sunday program, with meetings at 10:30, 3 and 7, the sweet spirit of Our Father was present, and all who spoke were inspired. The messages were of unusual worth, and everyone must have felt strengthened if they were the least in tune.

"Sunday evening the double choirs, from Amsterdam and Rotterdam, sang the well-known 'Hallelujah.' The congregation sang the 'Spirit of God like a fire is burning' as an obligato, and many eyes were wet hearing that glorious rush of sound ascending to heaven. It was an unusual day!

"Monday, a grand field day was held in back of the famous Rijks-Museum in Amsterdam, and all manner of sports and games were indulged in. In the evening, the M. I. A. presented a play, 'The Spook Train,' which was splendidly done. At least 300 people attended. These attendance figures may look small when compared to a large Stake like Oakland, but for us they spelled success. Our meetings Sunday averaged well over 500 a session, and we were obliged to arrange for a loud-speaker system, as many saints had to be sent upstairs, for our chapel in Amsterdam does not accommodate more than 375.

"Tuesday we held a missionary testimonial meeting which proved to be the finest experience of the whole conference. The Elders had fasted for 24 hours at least, and the spirit present was thrilling! A sweetness, a calm assurance and knowledge that we were being attended by the Spirit of the Holy Ghost was etched upon the face of almost every elder present, and the remarks made by all present will never be forgotten in the memories of all of those who attended. Many elders, unable to go on, broke down and wept, overcome by the power of a sincere testimony, and if there was a dry eye among the whole group, I did not observe it. Never, during my entire stay in the mission field, and I have been here almost 17 months, have I enjoyed a testimonial so much. If we could only carry the spirit we exhibited there, in our daily lives, we would really shine as lights of truth, as we are supposed to. A banquet held afterwards, ended our Missionary Conference for another year. We had all been fed to overflowing with words of eternal truth, and our hearts were grateful!

"President Murdock and his wife are now touring Europe (southern part) after an excellent Mission President's Conference at Lucerne, Switzerland. The letters which they have sent us have been inspirational, and we can hardly wait to hear 'all about it.'

"Shortly before Conference, Apostle Joseph Fielding Smith and his wife, Sister Jessie Evans Smith, visited us. Oh! but they are wonderful people! We enjoyed every minute of their stay, and had grand times together. They are so simple, sincere and genuine. With all of his knowledge Apostle Smith is just as unassuming as can be, and Sister Smith is, well—schattig zouden wij in het Hollandsch zegen. (I can't express it in English.) She also sings beautifully, and we enjoyed many a musical evening.

"Our misisonary baseball team is having a wonderfully successful season. So far, they have not been beaten by a major Dutch team. They have won every game they have played. Publicity resulting from the same is better than we have received in 80 years of missionary work. We really feel that much is being accomplished this way. There is every indication that our missionaries will become the major league champions of Holland for 1939!

W. KING DRIGGS TO LOS ANGELES

W. King Driggs

Oakland Stake's talented music director, Prof. W. King Driggs, author and composer of the cantata, "The Liahona," and innumerable other fine things, has moved to Los Angeles to be nearer his daughters who are engaged in radio work at Hollywood. Mrs. Driggs preceded him several weeks.

It is with keen regret that Oakland Stake bids him farewell, and with deep appreciation for his most outstanding service to the cause of music in this vicinity. It is difficult to say in what lay his greatest contribution. He could have built up a strong central Stake choir, but instead he devoted his energies to effecting smaller and efficient ward choirs which on occasion were combined to provide music for conference sessions. Thus did he seek to carry out the general policy of the Church of reaching the greatest possible number of people.

Professor Driggs was tireless as a composer. He has reset a great number of good old Mormon hymns to new and more fitting music, and has rearranged many others. He has also written words and music to many new songs. But perhaps he will be remembered most for the stirring originality, brilliant composition and beautiful melody of his cantata, "The Liahona"—the story of Lehi and Nephi and their families coming from Jerusalem to the Promised Land, led by the compass "of curious workmanship, the liahona." This work was rendered some three times in Oakland Stake, and was of such high quality that it enlisted the praise and unstinted work of Professor Reeder of the Claremont Choral Society. Two of the productions, those in the Oakland Auditorium, were under his direction.

It is to be hoped that in his new home Profesor Driggs will have opportunity to repeat many times the production of this cantata. Originally it was projected by him as the first of a series on Book of Mormon themes. It is to be hoped, too, that he will find time and ample encouragement to carry out this original intention.

"During the last two weeks we have started holding street meetings in Den Haag. The police, after some little persuasion, finally granted permission. However, we are not allowed to pass out tracts, discuss Gospel principles, refer to other churches in any way, or give a sermon. We are limited to giving out information. This makes it quite difficult, but we are grateful for the chance we have of giving the people some idea of our work.

"I have had no opportunity to study music thus far in my mission, and am very dubious

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C. W. NALDER
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as to whether or not the chance will arise to take up vocal work any further; while here at least. However, I sing once in a while for evening meetings or at a Spring or Fall Conference; I have had the good fortune to have been able to work with the members on 'Martha' last year, and was associated with the Misisonary Chorus at various times during last year; so all in all, have had a chance at a little musical activity. Perhaps the best of all is to be able to appreciate good music, and learn to love and understand it more completely; instead of having to participate in order to be really happy.

"It's time to close, so I must say, until next time! May the goodly influence of the Holy Spirit ever dwell in your midst, and may your lives continually be warmed and cheered by the beauty and everlastingness of the eternal truth, which we have in our midst, is my sincere prayer for each any every one of you.

"Lovingly,
"ROBERT KEST."

PITTSBURG BRANCH

Services Held in American Legion Hall on E Street

Carlyle Hinckley took his Sunday School class on a swimming party to Antioch during the last week in June. There were twenty present.

Mrs. Roache's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bodley, are visiting at their home in Antioch, also Mrs. Roache's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Petterson of Salt Lake City.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gibbs have as visitors Mr. Gibb's sister, Mrs. F. Zimmerman and little daughter, of Salt Lake City.

Our ward has been active in welfare work during this last month. Fifty quarts of cherries were donated by Mr. C. Saly and put up by the Relief Society. Also fifty quarts of apricots, given by Mr. Pacini of Port Chicago.

Mrs. Lewis of Provo, is visiting with her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lewis of Pittsburg.

On July 16, Brothers Don Wood and Wayne Mayhew were speakers at meeting. They were of the Stake High Council. The note of loyalty was dominant in all the talks this day. After the meeting the speakers and Bishop and Mrs. F. Mellor were entertained at the C. Hinckley home in Pittsburg.

VALLEJO WARD

Meet at 2010 Marin Street, Vallejo

Alice Bundies, teacher of the Church History Class, and A. J. Knight, a member of the Sunday School Superintendency, entertained the Church History Class at a delightful picnic at Blue Rock Springs. Games were enjoyed and a delicious luncheon served.

On July 11, the Relief Society enjoyed a program at the Church building, after which delicious refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed.

Mrs. Lizzie Norsencrouft of Salt Lake City was the guest of Sina Muhlenbrook for a few days and was among the Relief Society ladies who enjoyed a picnic at Blue Rock Springs, July 18.

Walter Hill and family have returned from a delightful vacation, spent at Ogden, Utah.

Vallejo ward Mutual entertained the ward members at a celebration on July 25, at the Napa city water works. A weinie roast was enjoyed, after which a delightful program was rendered. 118 members were present.

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HAYWARD WARD

Services Held at 1070 B Street

Sunday, July 23, the Hayward Camp of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, commemorated Utah statehood day in a playlet, depicting incidents from their own pioneer histories. The playlet was written by Ann Ray, a daughter. In the stage setting many pioneer relics were used, one of which was a spinning wheel which crossed the plains in Brigham Young's company and spinning some of the first thread in Utah. It is now owned by Mrs. Hendricks. Musical numbers were furnished by members of the camp. A reading by Sarah Summerhays rounded out the program.

Monday, July 24, the Mutual officers sponsored an outing for the ward members at Nelson Camp in Crow Canyon. Weinies, watermelon, games, dancing and musical program were enjoyed.

Mrs. Ben Summerhays, formerly of Dimond ward, is visiting her mother-in-law, Mrs. H. J. Summerhays of Hayward.

Mr. and Mrs. Wisman and family, of Provo, Utah, are visiting with their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wisman.

The Bishopric will accept any and all suggestions on how to run the ward, and how to build a chapel. Members, don't hesitate, here is your chance to put in your word.

MARTINEZ WARD

Services Held at 1022 Thompson Street, Martinez

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Skidmore, Meryl and Orland Skidmore recently had a vacation trip to Utah.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Evenson and baby daughter have returned from Los Angeles after a short visit with relatives.

Jack Roskelly of Phoenix, Arizona. recently spent a week here visiting with his family, the Gilbert Roskellys.

Mrs. Irene Anderson had as visitors at her home, her mother, Mrs. Scott, and her sister, Miss Evelyn Scott, of Gridley.

Clarence Bernards of Red Bluff, a former member of our ward, was a recent visitor in Martinez.

Visiting at the home of Bishop Abbott are his brother, Richard Abbott, and family from La Crosse, Wisconsin.

William T. Hicken and Jess Grover were speakers at our sacrament meeting, July 9; R. Kendall Thomas of the Stake High Council was our speaker July 16; E. C. Hinckley of Pittsburg and Afton Hipwell of Martinez spoke to us on "Utah Pioneers," July 23.

Michelle Nix is visiting with friends in Los Angeles.

Kay Knowles accompanied the Kaiser family on a vacation trip to Portland.

RICHMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel, Corner 28th Street and Nevin Avenue, Richmond

Mrs. T. P. Smith and son, Thomas, of Norfolk, Virginia, are spending a few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Phelps and family. Mrs. Smith is the mother of Mr. Phelps.

Mrs. May Whelan has just returned from Boise, Idaho, where she has been visiting with her mother, Mrs. Sarah Kelly, and her sister, Mrs. Myrtle Hammack.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester C. Flint and family of Kaysville, Utah, have been guests of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Tidwell.

An especially fine program was held Sunday evening, July 16. Mr. Robert Payne of the Stake mission and Frank Parsons were the speakers. Miss Edith Booth and Miss Barbara Beatty gave vocal selections.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Aikens have their nephew, C. Allen Bert, of Brigham City, Utah, visiting with them.

Word has been received of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Owen Hillyard of Logan, Utah. Mrs. Hillyard was formerly Miss Margret Tidwell of this ward.

Paul Johnson and Blaine Haddock spent a week fishing in Eureka.

Mrs. Edmond Phelps and children have gone to Utah for an extended vacation.

OAKLAND WARD

Services Held at Chapel, Corner Moss Avenue and Webster Street, Oakland

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Spafford and sister, Mrs. C. Johnston and daughter, Loraine, from Utah, spent several days visiting Mr. and Mrs. Sam Breck, while waiting the arrival of their son, who was returning from a mission in New Zealand. Mrs. Spafford is the editor of the Relief Society magazine.

Mr. Murray Shields, professor of business administration at the University of Alaska, together with his wife, Helen, and his father, mother and sister, Ruth, were visitors of Bishop and Mrs. Shields during the past week. In July, 1938, Preston Nibley, president of the Northwestern States Mission, went to Fairbanks, Alaska, and organized a branch. Mr. Shields was made first branch president.

Mrs. Josie Davis has been confined in the Stanford Hospital in San Francisco for the past three weeks. She left the hospital Friday, July 21, and is now recuperating at her daughter's home in Alameda.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fletcher motored to Salinas for the week-end.

Mrs. Ruth Wright left Saturday night for Salt Lake City to visit with her relatives for a month.

The Book of Mormon Class entertained Sunday evening, July 23, at Mr. and Mrs. Glen Elliott's home.

Mrs. Katherine Norberg has just returned home from Salt Lake City, where she was called by the death of her brother, Douglas McAfee.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Pahl, from Claremont ward, are now residing in the Oakland ward, at 840 York. Mrs. Pahl was formerly Louise Fellers, from Oakland.

A farewell party and dinner was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Johnson, who left the ward and will make their home near Provo, Utah. They were presented with a lovely gift from the Senior Genealogical Class, of which Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were active members.

The Primary organization of the ward will hold their homecoming party August 16. Mrs. Emery Ranker, the superintendent of our Primary, asks all members of the ward to please reserve that date and come out and patronize our Primary. The Primary will start their season's activities the first week in September.

MRS. GARDNER IMPROVING SLOWLY

The many friends of Mrs. Margaret Gardner, wife of former Stake Clerk Reed S. Gardner, will be happy to know that she is home from the hospital, and is convalescing slowly from her recent major operation. However, she is not yet allowed to see visitors.

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DIMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel at 3618 Dimond Avenue, Oakland

President and Mrs. Hilton's eldest son, Eugene, has arrived in New York on his way home from the mission field. He is expected home some time this week. Joe Roy, second eldest son, is busily preparing to leave for the same field which his brother just left (German mission), and will depart early in September.

Attendance at sacrament meeting in our ward has been unusually fine during this vacation season. Some of those who have been able to go out of town are: Knute Torgerson of the bishopric, enjoyed his visit in Utah. Blake Riding drove home to see his parents at Springville, Utah. Mrs. Cleo Ricks, who is still visiting in Ogden. Arden Allen and family spent their two weeks in Northern California. The Van Noys visited in Utah as well as Idaho. Bro. Glen C. Rounds of the Sunday School Superintendency is away now.

Elder Raymond Jones returning from the Texas Mission to his Salt Lake City home, stopped en route at the Kimball home in our ward. We enjoyed his remarks during the meetings of the Sunday he was here. Elaine Kimball plans to visit in Salt Lake. Her sister, Lenora, returned last week from Salt Lake.

Mr. Chas. C. Cherrington will leave England on July 25 for his homeward voyage. During his absence Mrs. Cherrington was called to Idaho because of the illness of her sister. Aurtence and Don accompanied her.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Mudge are at home at 1935 10th avenue after their marriage in Salt Lake Temple and honeymoon through Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

The Senior Book of Mormon Class delighted to participate in an open air party at an old Indian camping place in the vicinity of Redwood Road on July 14. Before an open fire Mrs. Ruth Hilton related an Indian legend. A good crowd attended.

Grace Richards, a bride-to-be, of the Berkeley ward, was surprised at a linen shower by some girls of our ward. Alice and Viola Lauper were hostesses and a total of 18 girls enjoyed the affair. Molded ice cream in shapes of rings, slippers, love birds, lillies, hearts and cupids, were served as refreshments.

Miriam Lee and Alice Everett have had their brother, Lex, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexis B. Malan, visiting from Ogden, Utah, also a sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Torgeson from Madison, Wisconsin.

BERKELEY WARD

All Services Held at Chapel, Corner Vine and Walnut Streets, Berkeley

The Berkeley Primary Association has been reorganized during the summer, with Mrs. Lyle Coombs as the new president. Her counselors will be Ann Sorenson and Thelma Gardner. The old officers, who were released with a sincere vote of thanks for their fine work, are Minnie Smith, president, and Mary Dunham and Lyle Coombs, counselors.

Saturday, July 15, was the date of the Berkeley ward picnic at Tilden Park, sponsored by the new M. I. A. presidency. During the afternoon a baseball game was held between the married and single men, the single men winning, 18-6. At night a campfire program, complete with community singing, was enjoyed. Clifton Boyack and Katheryn Maybe are the new M. I. A. presidents.

A shower in honor of Grace Richards was held on July 6 at the home of Bishop Ericksen. Miss Richards will be married to Clifton Boyack in the Salt Lake Temple in August. A very large number of Berkeley and Claremont people were there to wish the prospective bride happiness. The highlight of the evening came during the opening of the presents, when Glenn Harmon took movies in color of the scene. Alma Deane Ericksen, Wanda Harmon and Mrs. James Russell assisted Mrs. Ericksen with the arrangements.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Moses and daughters, Ruth and Carol Jean, of Los Angeles, have been visiting in Berkeley with Mrs. Moses' sister, Mrs. J. E. Smith. The Moses will be remembered as recent and prominent members of Berkeley ward.

The Berkeley Boy Scout Troop 8 held a court of honor on July 2 in the Berkeley chapel. Many of the boys received awards, after which a talk was given by Howard MacDonald of San Francisco Stake presidency. MacDonald was the first scoutmaster to lead Troop 8.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wilson of Ogden, Utah, and children, Keith, Margaret, and Donald, were recent Berkeley visitors. They stayed with their daughter and son-in-law, Marian and Meredith Wilson, who will be here this year attending the university.

The Deseret Club held a hay ride party on Saturday, July 29, for the young people of the ward. After the ride, watermelon was served. Marion Redford is the new Deseret Club president.

Other people who have been visiting in Berkeley the last month, to see the Fair, are Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Child and children, Deana, Emma, Carl, Loretta and Cleve; Mrs. L. M. Griffith and daughter, Lona; all of Salt Lake City; and Mrs. Effie Barrows of Logan.

The Berkeley ward will hold their annual father and sons—mothers and daughters outing and picnic on Saturday, August 12, at Regional Park camp No. 8. Sports for the men and special activities for the ladies will be followed by a family picnic. A campfire program climaxed with old-time dancing will complete the program. Miss Evenly Clawson, recently returned missionary, will be the guest of honor for the evening.

CLAREMONT WARD

Services Held at Wilkins Hall, 1412 Haste Street, Berkeley

The marriage of Vivian Mason and William Lee Anderson took place in the home of Martin and Lucille Jeffries, June 19. Bishop Reed Chase performed the ceremony.

Wanda Chase and Dorothy Brown returned July 19th from a trip to Los Angeles. They rode down with Mr. and Mrs. John Stirrat.

Bishop Reed Chase performed the wedding ceremony of Bretta Linford and Kenneth Edward Dotson, on July 10.

Lucille and Martin Jeffries went to Utah to attend the funeral of Martin's niece. Martin returned home, but Lucille remained with her mother who is ill.

The first entertainment under the new budget system was held in the form of a dance on July 14. The rest of the year will be filled with many affairs just as nice.

A baby daughter was born to Charles Larison and Carydon Larison, July 8, at Peralta Hospital.

Miss Minnie Gain left July 17 for Salt Lake City. She will spend a short while with relatives.

On July 6, at Bishop Reed Chase's home, William Nielson of the Stake High Council, gave a lecture and showed the slides of President McKay on the Church Welfare Program.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stevens, formerly of Claremont ward, have moved to Salt Lake to live.

Mrs. Elizabeth Burdett and son, Bobby, arrived home Saturday night, July 15, from a trip to Utah.

Miss Helen Burdett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Burdett, arrived home July 18 from a vacation in the Santa Cruz Mountains with friends.

Roberta Millward returned home from a two months' visit in Utah. Accompanying Roberta home was her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Elkington, her sister-in-law, Margy Hammond, and her cousin, Morreen Berry.

Martin Jeffries, superintendent of the Y. M. M. I. A., has chosen as one of his counselors, Bryant Knowlton, a newcomer to Claremont ward, just returned from a mission.

The first grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carr to be baptized was La Mont Carr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Carr. He was baptized by Elmo Carr and confirmed by Charles Carr.

Golden Wolf and family are welcomed back to Claremont ward from their trip to Los Angeles.

Marion Crocket of Ogden, sister of Lorna Birchill, is visiting with Lorna and Tom Birchill for a short vacation.

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A surprise birthday party was given for Miss Jane Lawry by Zola Hardesty on July 14. Members of Berkeley and Claremont wards attended.

Miss Minnie Gain was elected president, and Lucille Jeffries, secretary and treasurer, of the Girls' Chorus. There are 18 members of the chorus with Helen Clovis as pianist and Ardell Kay as leader.

Norma Lawry is on an all-summer vacation in Fritillaria Gulch.

Jim Kay, superintendent of the Sunday School, has as his new assistants, George Bedwin and Don Rawson.

Sympathy of all members of Claremont ward is extended to Mrs. Charles Carr, due to the passing of her father, Shade Boice. Mrs. Shade Boice is now staying with Mr. and Mrs. Carr.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Brown, uncle and aunt of Ruth Tarter, arrived July 6 on the *Chaumont*, a navy transport, from Manilla for a visit.

The marriage of Boice Carr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Carr, and Mildred Cardwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cardwell, took place in Reno, July 19. They will spend their honeymoon in the Boy Scout Camp, Wolfboro, where Boice is a life saving and swimming instructor.

ALAMEDA WARD

Services Held at Odd Fellows Hall, Corner Park Street and Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda

On July 10 the members of the Relief Society held a very enjoyable party in honor of Mrs. Augusta Strong, retiring secretary, who with her family has recently removed from our ward to Castro Valley.

On July 11, Mrs. Ada Miller was guest at a party given in her honor by the Primary organization. Mrs. Miller, with her husband and daughter, recently moved to Dimond.

The Primary organization entertained at a very delightful party in the nature of swimming party and watermelon "bust" for the children, their parents and friends, on July 20.

Mrs. Reba Winkel has accepted the position as secretary of the Relief Society.

Max McBride has been appointed second counselor in the Y. M. M. I. A.

The ward welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Otto Duke and family from Salt Lake City, who have taken up a temporary residence here.

James P. Jensen announces the marriage of his daughter, Elva, to Dixon Davis, on July 9. The marriage was performed by Bishop Wendell M. Jensen.

Friends of Miss Lorna Evans entertained at a prettily arranged shower at the home of Mrs. Marie Meuter. Miss Evans, a bride of the month, was the receipient of many beautiful gifts.

Friends are happy to know that William F. Everett has successfully recovered from an injury and operation that confined him to a San Francisco hospital for several weeks.

Mrs. Wm. F. Everett is at present caring for her mother, Mrs. Josie Davis, who is at her home convalescing from a recent major operation.

On a Sunday evening during a short visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Pinckney, Mr. Pinckney's brother, Mr. E. Pinckney of Salt Lake City, was the guest speaker at our sacrament meeting, and gave a most interesting and instructive address on the philosophy of faith and the problems of education in our Church.

A good, live budget committee has been organized, composed of the following members: Hyrum S. Horman, Wm. N. Clayson, Delbert J. Lee, Vernesse Hutchings, Rosina Yeaman and Marie Meuter. They are now diligently at work in accordance to Church recommendation to solve ward finance problems.

Among the almost two score visitors at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Everett and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Powell and other near relatives during the past month, have been the following: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dunn, of Salt Lake City; Mrs. Pauline Waterfall and four children, from Ogden; Zella Heslop, of Ogden; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Everett and family, of Salt Lake City, who had the happy experience of meeting their son, Norman, in San Francisco, en route home from an Australian mission; Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Angel, of Modena, Utah; Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Linderman and two children, from Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beesley, Eureka, Utah; Lorenzo Beesley, Los Angeles; Frank Lee, Tenino, Washington; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Welch, of Salt Lake City; Mrs. Edith Seamons, Los Angeles, and Mrs. Emily Younger, of Salt Lake City.

Other visitors to Alameda friends or relatives are Mr. and Mrs. Milton Woodland and son, of Provo, visiting Bishop Jensen; Mrs. C. Jensen, of Lake Park, Iowa, and grandson, visiting Mrs. Anna Peterson; Ralph Crandall, of Ogden, visiting the Crandall's; Miss Iris Young, of Tucson, visiting Miss Thelma Young.

Numerous are the members of the ward who have been going or coming from vacations in the past month. Among them are Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Liddle and family; Mrs. Reba Winkel; Dr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Marriot; Mrs. Delbert J. Lee and daughters, Marion and Dolores; Mrs. Wm. N. Clayson; Mrs. Donald W. Hughes; Miss Edna Huish; Mr. and Mrs. Hyrum Horman and family; Mrs. Blanche Crandall and daughter, Lucille; George H. Pinckney.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS:

To Mr. and Mrs. June Payne, Dimond, a child.
To Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jacobs, Dimond, a child.
To Mr. and Mrs. Shirrill Shurtliff, Dimond, a child.
To Mr. and Mrs. Horace Toponce, Richmond, a daughter, June 27.
To Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gengler, Richmond, a son, June 14.

BLESSINGS:

Charles Albert Engbersen, Oakland.
Beatrice Tribe, Oakland.
Jacqueline Nielson, Claremont, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Nielson.

BAPTISMS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

Barbra Jean Rich, Oakland.
Marylin Rich, Oakland.
Floy Ann McAllister, Dimond.
LaMont Carr, Claremont.
Barbara Jean Roskelly, Martinez.
Ester Estelle Phelps, Richmond.

ORDINATIONS:

Andrew H. Easton, Martinez, Deacon.
William B. Everett, Alameda, Priest.
Joseph Fontano, Alameda, Priest.
Raymond Land Pedersen, Sr., Vallejo, Elder.
Frederick D. Bennett, Oakland, Elder.
Abraham H. Kaleikaw, Jr., Oakland, Deacon.
Rulon Klyde Ogden, Oakland, Teacher.
Douglas Swanson, Dimond, Elder.
Clarence Booth, Dimond, Elder.
Ballif Evans, Dimond, Elder.
James Ruff, Dimond, Elder.
Adrian Rice, Claremont, Teacher.
Robert E. Ridge, Martinez, Teacher.
Donald Devon Harkins, Dimond, Deacon.
John Levi Hilton, Dimond, Deacon.
William Allen Rice, Dimond, Deacon.
David Graham, Hayward, Elder.
Raymond L. Pederson, Vallejo, Elder.
Ronald Phister, Hayward, Elder.
Elwood Johnston, Hayward, Elder.
Gilbert Peterson, Hayward, Elder.
Stanley Michaelson, Elmhurst, Elder.
Raff Beam, Claremont, Teacher.
Stan Redman, Claremont, Teacher.

MARRIAGES:

Marjorie Briggs and Theodore Mudge, Dimond, June 27, in the Salt Lake Temple.
Ruth F. Larsen and William Joseph Pakle, Dimond.
Ruth DeFries and Lorraine Williams, Dimond.
Mary Elizabeth Cave and John Oscar Vetterlii, Jr. by President Eugene Hilton, July 22.
Marguerite Ruth Ewing and Melvin Grant Staley, by President Eugene Hilton, July 23.
Jennie Stimpson and Roy Lorenzo Hadley, by President Eugene Hilton, July 27.

DEATHS:

Laura J. Richardson, Alameda, July 12.

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